



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

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DECEMBER MEAT PRODUCTION UP FROM LAST YEAR

SIOUX FALLS, January 25, 2008 -- Commercial red meat production for South Dakota totaled 95.6 million pounds during December. This was up 18 percent from December 2006 but down 6 percent from last November. For December 2007, pork production was up but sheep and lamb production was down from one year ago, according to the South Dakota office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Commercial hog slaughter for South Dakota totaled 441,800 head during December compared to 363,500 head the year before. Average live weight was 259 pounds, which was down 6 pounds from December 2006.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter for South Dakota totaled 900 head during December compared to 1,600 head a year earlier. Average live weight was 130 pounds, which was up 1 pound from December 2006.

Commercial slaughter data for cattle is not published.

Access this complete report at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/nass/LiveSlau/2000s/2008/LiveSlau-01-25-2008.pdf>